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From on Board the Dover at Gibraltar, December 23, O. S.

THE 7th Inſtant at Night His Majeſty's Ships the Dover, Advice and Norwich, under the Command of Commadore Cavendiſh, being about 9 Leagues to the Weſtward of Cape St. Vincent, fell in with three Spaniſh Men of War, one of them a very high built Ship of 64 Guns, another of 62, and the 3d of 50, that were ſuppoſed to come from Corunna, and to be bound for Cadiz. The Wind being at North Weſt and pretty ſtrong, and the Sea running very high, the Commadore thought it proper to defer engaging them till next Morning; accordingly by Break of Day we attack'd them, and the Engagement laſted three Hours, but as they were much ſuperiour to us, and we fought under this Diſadvantage, that by reaſon of the bad Weather we could not make Uſe of our lower Tire of Guns, finding it impoſſible to take them we bore away, and came in here the 10th Inſtant. The Dover had nine Men killed and wounded, the Advice about 30, and the Norwich five. We have ſince received an Account from Cadiz, that the Spaniſh Ships above-mentioned got in there the 9th; that they came from St. Andrea; and are called the Capitana de Barlovento, the Toloſa, and the Minione; and that they have loſt Abundance of Men, and are very much ſhattered and damaged in their Maſts and Rigging. The 17th at Night we had prodigious Thunder and Lightning, a Flaſh of which cut down our Foremaſt, the whole Ship was full of Lightning between Decks, and five or ſix Men hurt with it, particularly the Centinel at the Powder-Room Scuttle, who was almoſt killed, yet by great Providence the Powder did not take Fire. We are repairing our Damage in order to go out again to cruize.

Berne, Dec. 27. The Sieur Jeunnich, one of the Secretaries of this Canton, who was ſent ſome time ago to Bienne on Account of the Commotions there, occaſioned by ſome Hardſhips which the Biſhop of Porentru attemped to impoſe on the Inhabitants of that Town, is returned hither, and on the 20th Inſtant attended the Sovereign Council, and made his Report of the State of that Matter; the Council thereupon reſolved to write to the Biſhop to exhort him to deſiſt from his unreaſonable Pretentions, and to contribute what lies in him to reſtore the publick Tranquility, as they had before admoniſhed the Inhabitants of Bienne to ſubmit to the Biſhop ſo far as could reaſonably be expected from them, and to contribute on their Part towards bringing Matters to an Accommodation. Endeavours are alſo uſed to compoſe the Differences between this State and the Principality of Neufchatel, which were occaſioned by a Prohibition which the Government here thought fit to lay upon the Wines of Neufchatel, their Subjects being over ſtocked with Wines of their own Growth. An Officer in the Duke of Lorraine's Service arrived here laſt Week with a Letter from that Duke to this Canton, acquainting them, that one of his Subjects being accuſed of Coining French Louis d'Ors had fled from Juſtice, and his Highneſs being informed he had retired into Switzerland deſired that Leave might be given to ſearch for him in the Territories of this State. This was readily complied with, and Orders were given at the ſame time to all the Bailiffs of the ſeveral Diſtricts to aſſiſt in ſuch Search, and in ſeizing the Offender if he could be found; but after a fruitleſs Enquiry after him in theſe Parts the Duke of Lorrain's Officer proceeded on the ſame Errand to the Canton of Zurich.

Vienna Dec. 27, *N. S.* The Duke of Holſtein Gottorp arrived here the 20th Inſtant from Dreſden under the Name of the Count de Rheinbock; he made a Viſit the next Day to Prince Eugene, and has ſince had Audience of the Emperour, the Empreſs and the reſt of the Imperial Family. His Highneſs intends to ſtay here but a few Days, and then to return to Hambourg. Signior Guiciſardi, the Duke of Modena's Miniſter, had an Audience this Day of his Imperial Majeſty, to notify the Marriage lately concluded between the Hereditary Prince of Modena and Mademoiſelle de Valois, Daughter to the Regent of France. Count Kinigſegg, who is now at Dreſden in the Quality of High Steward of the Electoral Princeſs of Saxony's Houſehold, is to go with the Character of the Emperour's Ambaſſadour to Warſaw, to be preſent at the General Diet of Poland that is ſhortly to meet there. His Imperial Majeſty's Paſs is ſent to Wilna, to General Weiſbach, who is coming hither as Miniſter from the Czar of Muſcovy.

Bruſſels, Jan. 6, *N. S.* M. Neny, who had been ſent by the Marqueſs de Prié to the Hague to ſettle ſome Matters relating to the Execution of the Barrier Treaty, and the Convention ſince made for explaining ſome Points of it, returned hither laſt Week; and the Prince of Ligne is to go from hence in four or five Days to take Poſſeſſion of ſeveral Places